Union Territory Administrations have generally taken steps on the above lines. The Central Government has also strengthened arrangements for monitoring of prices and availability of essential commodities. Meetings have been held with representatives of trade and industry urging them to take steps for containment of the prices.

Elimination of bonded labour system

446. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are five billion bonded labourers at present and that fifty thousand of them are in a chronic state of bondage in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to formulate any new scheme to remove this system from the country; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the State Governments, 2,21,806 bonded labourers have been identified and released upto 31st December, 1987.

(c) and (d) State Governments have been advised to take steps to identify, release and rehabilitate all bonded labour. A Centrally sponsored scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour is in operation. A new Plan Scheme for involvement of voluntary agencies in identification and rehabilitation of bonded labourers has been launched from 30-10-1987.

Shortage of CR and HR sheets in Tamil Nadu

447. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steel furniture manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu are facing threat of closure due to shortage of CR and HR sheets;

(b) what is the quantum of supply of these sheets to the steel furniture manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu by the SAIL and SIDCO; and

(c) whether any representation was also made to Government recently by the South India Steel Furniture Manufacturer's Association?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Government of Tamil Nadu have brought this to the notice of the Department of Steel.

(b) The quantity supplied to the steel furniture manufacturing units exclusively is not maintained separately.

(c) Yes, Sir.

हिन्दी भाषा का प्रसार

448. **श्री रामचन्द्र विकल :** क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि "क" और "ख" क्षेत्रों में राजभाषा अधिनियम की पूर्णत: अवहेलना करते हुए अंग्रेजी रोमन लिपि के कम्प्यूटरों, टैलेक्स मशीनों और टेलीप्रिंटरों जैसे दर्जनों आधुनिक यंत्रों के आगमन और अबाधित प्रयोग के फलस्वरूप हिन्दी के प्रसार का कार्य वर्षों पीछे पड़ गया है और जहां भी टेलेक्स मशीनें लगायी गई हैं वहां से

एक भी तार हिन्दी में नहीं भेजा गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि "क" क्षेत्रों में अंग्रेजी के टंकण यंत्रों, आदि की तुलना में देवनागरी के टंकण यंत्रों, टंकों और आशुलिपिकों की संख्या नहीं के बराबर है जबकि उनकी संख्या 50:50 होनी चाहिए थी ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और हिन्दी भाषा के प्रसार के लिए क्या नए कदम उठाए गए हैं ?

पर्यटन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरधर गोमांगो) : (क) आधुनिक उपकरण उपलब्ध होने के बावजूद, पर्यटन मंत्रालय में सरकारी कामकाज में हिन्दी का प्रयोग उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ रहा है।

(ख) मंत्रालय के "क" क्षेत्र में स्थित कार्यालयों में पर्याप्त संख्या में देवनागरी टाइपराइटर, हिन्दी टंकक और हिन्दी आशुलिपिक उपलब्ध है ।

(ग) हिन्दी भाषा का प्रसार करने के लिए उठाए गए कदमों में हिन्दी कार्यशाला एवं हिन्दी सप्ताह का आयोजन और राजभाषा अधिनियम के उपबन्धों का अनुपालन शामिल हैं ।

Constitution of the Delhi Housing Board and Delhi Slum Improvement Board

449. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
SHRI AJIT SINGH:
SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority is proposed to be divested of the responsibility for construction of houses and a separate Delhi Housing Board and a separate Delhi Slum Improvement Board would be constituted; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that construction carried out by the DDA was faulty and there were charges of corruption against the DDA officials;

(c) whether the DDA employees have resorted to agitation against this decision; if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and whether all the employees will be retained;

(d) whether Government had also appointed a Commission to suggest administrative changes in the DDA; if so, what are the reasons for introducing the changes before receipt of the Commission's report;

(e) what is the present progress regarding implementation of the proposal referred to in part (a) above and when the Delhi Housing Board and the Delhi Slum Improvement Board would be constituted and new registrations would commence; and

(f) whether the DDA would complete its housing schemes which are in the pipeline; if so, by when and what is the number of people awaiting allotment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir, because construction of housing and slum improvement was not envisaged in the original charter of DDA.

(b) Some cases regarding faulty construction have been reported by the Chief Technical Examiner, Quality Control Wing of the DDA and also through general complaints etc. which indicated charges of corruption against DDA officers/officials. Necessary action is taken as and when such cases come to the notice of the DDA/Government.